The Autumn outing and AGM took place at Peterhead at the end of October. There was a turnout of 62 with 56 golfing and the results were as follows: Scratch – 1. B Wood, Westhill; 2. AG Maclean, Aberdeenshire, 80; Class 1 – 1. G Mitchell, Newmachar, 74=71 (also winner of Net aggregate Meldrum Trophy); 2. K Peace, Inverurie 74=73; 3. C MacKay, Cruden Bay, 81=65=74; Class 2 – 1. B Williamson, retired, 83=76=76; Apprentice – 1. B Royal, 82=7=75 (bih); 3. G Moir, St Andrews, 82=Cameron, Inverurie 79=72; 2. G Leslie, Duff House 79; Class 3 – 1. B Cocker jnr, Drumoig, 90=42=74; 2. M Kinloch, Grantown, Oct. £30=42=14=76; 22-J Craik, SISIS; Nov. £40=128 - H Maclatchie, 80=4=76; longest drive and nearest the pin – J Sadler, Grantown, was the lucky winner of the BCCA blazer.

Thanks to all at Peterhead for a great day, the course was in superb condition and we were well looked after in the clubhouse.

The AGM followed the outing. Alasdair Maclaren and Neil Macdonald retired from the Committee and were replaced by Wilson Morrison, Alford, and Kevin Peace, Inverurie. Chairman Andy Wilson welcomed the new Committee men and paid tribute to the men retiring and thanked them for all their work over the years.Yours truly resigned as Secretary and Peterhead’s 99th AGM, the new Committee met and it was agreed that the Secretaries duties be split up. The new Committee and their main duties are as follows: Chairman Andy Wilson, Letham Grange, Vice-Chairman and organising treasurer Hugh Maclatchie, Peterhead, Treasurer Gordon Moir, St Andrews, Secretary Dougall Dougall, Westhill, 200 Club and magazine report Gordon McKie and Iain MacLeod, both Tain, Raffles/prizes Wilson Morrison, Alford, Education Kevin Peace, Inverurie and Stewart McNab, Braid Bay, Simon Morrison, Royal Aberdeen, completes the Committee line up and will understand the Treasurers role, he will also become Scottish Chairman next year.

Congratulations to Strathlene’s Alan Dempster on winning the event so many thanks to Rodger Bowles, Rigby Taylor, Derren Forirgdon, Parker Hart, and Kevin Peace, Inverurie. Chairman Andy Wilson welcomed and Neil Macdonald retired from the Committee and were replaced by Wilson Morrison, Alford, and Kevin Peace, Inverurie. Chairman Andy Wilson welcomed the new Committee men and paid tribute to the men retiring and thanked them for all their work over the years.Yours truly resigned as Secretary and Peterhead’s 99th AGM, the new Committee met and it was agreed that the Secretaries duties be split up. The new Committee and their main duties are as follows: Chairman Andy Wilson, Letham Grange, Vice-Chairman and organising treasurer Hugh Maclatchie, Peterhead, Treasurer Gordon Moir, St Andrews, Secretary Dougall Dougall, Westhill, 200 Club and magazine report Gordon McKie and Iain MacLeod, both Tain, Raffles/prizes Wilson Morrison, Alford, Education Kevin Peace, Inverurie and Stewart McNab, Braid Bay, Simon Morrison, Royal Aberdeen, completes the Committee line up and will understand the Treasurers role, he will also become Scottish Chairman next year.

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Around the Green

Cleveland
Norman Sheddon from Aikens Sportsturf was presented with an inscribed whisky decanter and glasses from Cleveland Section for his kindness and help over the years. He always acts as scorecard marker, and acts more like a friend to all greenkeepers, young and old. His advice and cheerfulness is sound and pleasant. We wish you Norman a happy retirement and our best wishes to both yourself and your caring wife Joan.

In October our first meeting was Norman, talking about fertilisers. He introduced Peter Cotton from Farmura who spoke on the advantages of organics and mechanical aeration and seaweeds. The question asked was: how do we manage our courses without pesticides as in Germany now. We are encouraged to build up bacterial soil activity. Norman's advice is avoid ammonium nitrate = lush growth, get a balance of organic and inorganics, root acids and soil acids, needed to breakdown fertilisers. IBEDU relies on temperature for release of nutrients, controlled release, nutrient resin type shell, some temperature and length of time = it lasts longer. For 1 unit of N = 3/4 unit of potash. Potash is useful for chlorophyll, colour and strength of plant.

It was nice to see younger members present, and how smart they all looked with collar and tie and jacket on. Well done chaps.

Diedisdale has a young trainee called James Applegarth, Ian Pemberton who passed Phase 4 recently is moving house from Middlesbro to Bedale. This will save him travelling 60 miles a day. Tony Mears, our Internal Verifier, held our first meeting of Assessors. James Braithwaite from Hallgarth Hotel Golf Club, Darlington, is the Toro/FGA European Tour Student of the Year. Congratulations.

Bruce Burnell.

East Anglian
The "Wells-Go-Far" mailing system finally made it to Norfolk with our invitations and what a great day it was at Royal Cromer GC, some might say "Bootsfull". It didn't rain, the course was in great shape thanks to Roger and the lads, and it was one of the best, if not the best tour outs for yonks. Essex men turn up in the charabang which was thoughtfully arranged by Dennis Smith and there wasn't a can of lager or Rotweiller in sight. It was good to see some new faces Dave Ireson, Eaton; Brian Lemmon, Barnham Broom; as well as the old scalliwags especially George Newsome whose cheerful personality is really welcome these days.

Enough of the niceties, now the results. There are three sections plus guests so here we go: 0-9 or Category 1: Have we gone metric! 1. A Toomey, 2. R offences. Trade prize won by Dave (Jack) Hawkins. If you think that was a long list wait till you see this lot. They are of course our long suffering friends Butch and Sundance alias Rushbrooks and (Mother's) Pride. Trade prize won by Dave (Jack) Hawkins. If you think that was a long list wait till you see this lot. They are of course our long suffering trade gang who are as follows: Anglia Mowers, Jacobsen, Toro, Rhino-Poulenc, Turf Actant, Coltier Turf Care, Kubota, Parker Hart, Kings, CMW, Cromer Pro(Robin Page), Does, Cooks (Norwich), Pattison, Alan Carter, Levingtons, Nicholsons, and our good friends Burch and Sundance alias Rushbrooks and Sisir. If I have missed anyone out you will find them in Yellow Pages. Our thanks once again to Royal Cromer GC for a really great day. The Captain Mr Gotts received us warmly and I'm sure most of us will remember the President 'cos he's Paul's dad, Mr

Diedisdale has a young trainee called James Applegarth, Ian Pemberton who passed Phase 4 recently is moving house from Middlesbro to Bedale. This will save him travelling 60 miles a day. Tony Mears, our Internal Verifier, held our first meeting of Assessors. James Braithwaite from Hallgarth Hotel Golf Club, Darlington, is the Toro/FGA European Tour Student of the Year. Congratulations.

Bruce Burnell.

Devon and Cornwall
On the week Roy retired as Head Greenkeeper at St Mellion Golf & Country Club it was fitting that the section held its first meeting of the winter programme at his complex on Wednesday October 25.

With such large numbers of members requesting to play golf for the D O Hunt Trophy over St Mellion's internationally renown Nicklaus course meant that starting times has to be brought forward by an hour to 7.40am. Non golfing members were treated to a guided tour of the course by retiring Head Greenkeeper Roy Battishill which was most informative and included the viewing of Roy's pond! After lunch Don Hunt of Roffeys presented the prizes he had kindly donated for the morning's D O Hunt Stableford competition to: 1st - Steve Worrall, Stover 31pts; 2nd - Chris Bland, Dainton 32pts; 3rd - Steve Milne, Exeter, 31pts. Our congratulations and thanks are extended to Robert Brewer and his crew for preparing the course in excellent condition after the recent downpour of rain.

Our afternoon educational talk was presented by Roy Battishill on the maintenance of the St Mellion Complex from the growing in period through to stagaring the Benson & Hedges FGA Tour event. After Roy's talk our Chairman Bill Mitchell and President Alan Dommett presented Roy with a tankard and a Certificate of appreciation from the section and cut glass crystal from the trade, they wished Roy a happy and enjoyable retirement from the sections members and trade.

The section would like to thank Peter Andrewartha, D Hunt, Roffeys; Alan Dommett, DGM; P J Flegg, Clive Ralph, Willcocks; Dave Harrison, SISIS; Allan Stow,Vitax; and organiser John Palfrey, Avoncroft, for donating towards the club's gift. The raffle rounded off a most successful day, with thanks also to St Mellion for allowing the section use of their complex for the day and to all of St Mellion's staff.

There are still a few places left on the region's 1996 trip to Harrogate and BTME but you need to hurry as places are going fast. To recoup the Westurf-sponsored trip includes return coach travel from your nearest pick up point, three nights B&B and entry to all seminar sessions for only £99 per member, wives and partners are welcome at only £75 which does not include seminar sessions. For more details please contact Gordon Child on 01803 844056.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year and I will hopefully see you all at Finne Glen on Wednesday 17th January for our STRI seminar day.

Richard Whyman

THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONSHIP C TURF CARE, KUBOTA, PARKER HART, KINGS, CMW, CROMER PRO, ROBIN PAGE, DOES, COOKS (NORWICH), PATTISON, ALAN CARTER, LEVINGTONS, NICHOLSONS, AND OUR GOOD FRIENDS BURCH AND SUNDANCE ALIAS RUSHBROOKS AND SISIR. IF I HAVE MISSED ANYONE OUT YOU WILL FIND THEM IN YELLOW PAGES. OUR THANKS ONCE AGAIN TO ROYAL CROMER GC FOR A REALLY GREAT DAY. THE CAPTAIN MR GOTTs RECEIVED US WARMLY AND I'M SURE MOST OF US WILL REMEMBER THE PRESIDENT 'COS HE'S PAUL'S DAD, MR
Around the Green

South West & South Wales Region

Well it looks like another year has gone by and nobody knew where it went, but in spite of some real dry weather in this region, it isn't so bad.

Before the reminders, I didn't get round to writing about the Hayter Challenge Tournament. I'm afraid Marion forced me to take her on holiday. I will mention it now. Although we won nothing, taking part was the key to our enjoyment at the West Lancs GC in September. The University was excellent as was the golf course, and it was nice to see Scotland, who have never won before, in such fine fettle. Our congratulations to them. As for our own lads, they were immediately handicapped with a late withdrawal, and had to put up with yours truly playing in the team. I was proud of our lads' refreshing attitude to the game led by Sean Richards who lives with a smile on his face, and plays his golf the same way. This seemed to spread throughout the team. The only member who suffered jovular jestism was Trevor, but he is more than able too. Roll on next year.

By the time you read this the yearly Regional Seminar will have gone. More details about that later.

Just a reminder about the trip to BTME, Harrogate - a very few places left. £99 for members, £75 for non members. Give us a ring on 01803 84056. It just remains to wish all our members on behalf of the Committee a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

A Gamble

David Sego who said to me "I really enjoy the Greenkeepers' days out" Amen to that Mr Sego, Amen. Paul, incidently, is in Scotland and working hard as usual. Hook-ey-the-noe-as they say. I must just mention Steve Millard who did a good job in my absence it's good to know we've got some reserves. Well done.

Did you hear about the lad who did 25 years at the same club got £100 handshake, that's a penny a day (wow)! Been reading too many nursery rhymes. If this gets in before Christmas have a nice one. If it doesn't well, hope you had a nice one!

Sheffield

Firstly, on behalf of the Committee I would like to thank Ron Ullathorne for all the hard work he has done in keeping the Section running smoothly in the past year.

Our thanks go to Mr John Hacker of PSD Agronomy, whose lecture and slide show on golf course construction was enjoyed by 57 of our members at Rotherham Golf Club. If there is anyone interested in taking a spraying course, they should contact our section's education officer Steve Hurd on 01724 841827 who will give you more information.

Congratulations go to the following people who have taken up new posts recently, Ron Ullathorne, Head Greenskeeper at Hirst Park GC, Jeremy Duffield, Head Greenskeeper at Howley Hall GC and Steve Hird Assistant Greenskeeper at Forest Pines GC. Good luck to you all.

New members this month include James Dean, Rotherham GC; Stuart Taylor and Leonard Kirkbright. The Autumn Tournament was held on Wednesday 25th October at Easingwold GC. The course was in excellent condition and everybody had a very enjoyable day in unpleasant autumnal weather. The winners were: Division 1 - 1st G Potter, 2nd G Hewitt, 3rd R Harris. Division 2 - 1st P Thompson, 2nd A Baxter, 3rd D Collars. Division 3 1st D Cockburn, 2nd L Kirkbright, 3rd K Alderson. Nearest the Pin - L Kirkbright.

The Autumn Tournament was played on October 12th at Home Park GC. Thanks must go to Bill Machin for his efforts on the golf course, thanks also to Home Park for allowing us to use the golf course in their centenary year. Unfortunately the entries were a little sparse but those who entered enjoyed the day. Results are as follows: 1st A Locke Blackmoor GC, 54pts , 2nd R Glazer, Foxhills GC - 54pts on countback, 3rd D Walder, Reigate Heath GC, 54pts. The event was played over 27 holes.

The Huxley Bown this year became an all Foxhill affair. With the final being played over 36 holes the eventual victors were Course Managers and Assistant - Nevil Shade and Terry Ingram beat Head Greenkeepers Dave Wyborn and David Langheim.

The Dinner/Dance had to be cancelled due to lack of support. Again I would like to mention that a trip to Ransomes Ipswich has been proposed for the new year, a coach has been kindly supplied should we get a good response. If you are interested in the visit please contact any of your Committee members so a suitable date can be arranged.

Congratulations go to Robert Brewer upon his appointment of Course Manager at St Mellion and to Euan Grant upon his appointment as First Assistant at Royal Jersey Golf Club.

Position upon the Committee have become vacant anybody within our section interested and have a little time to spare a month please contact Derek Walder on 01773 246088.

The second of our Winter lectures have now been organised for January 12th at Walton Heath Artillery, the lecture is to be given by British Seed Houses 7.30pm. Venues for 1996 are still required for the Autumn Tournament, Parker Salver an Turkey Trot, if interested please contact myself on 01737 832015 after 6pm.

Now the festive season is fast approaching may I take this opportunity to wish all our members on behalf of the Committee a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

P.S. Please support us in 1996.

David Gibbs.

Midland

What an interesting 12 months I have had as Midland Section Secretary. Not all of it enjoyable, but on the whole a good experience. I have learnt a lot about the Association and its members, as well as how to type!

I still feel there is a lot of new ways our section can go forward in the future, and try to get more participation from the members organised by the Section and Region.

On October 9, Nick Bennett (Grass Roots Trading), organised a Go-Karting evening. Only 16 Greenkeepers out of the 48, who said they would like to participate, attended. With eight people making up the numbers outside of greenkeeping. A very enjoyable time was had by all.

The event went very well with four heats of six laps each to start with, then three semi-finals of 10 laps with the karts finishing 1st and 2nd in the final. The final was 15 laps with the results as follows: 1st - P Holtman, 2nd - N Dowry, 3rd - K Blake. I must say that I had a stroke of luck when Nick Bennett slowed down on the last lap, or was it? Many thanks to Nick for organising the evening, and for the buffet and coffee provided, from all who attended. Hopefully, our next evening will be as sus-
South West Section

Grey skies but a warm welcome awaited us at Salford GC, venue for this year’s Autumn Tournament and Section AGM.

A good attendance of 47 members played in the morning round of golf on a course with some panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

The new course layout certainly had a few people confused as to which hole to play next but most people came in with a completed score card so I assume they negotiated each hole correctly.

Thanks are given to Ian MacFarlane and his staff for their efforts in preparing the course for the day and to Club Captain John Champion for taking time to join us.

Prizegiving followed an enjoyable lunch with Rigby Taylor being the sponsors for the event for the first time this year.

Thanks go to Martin Samuel and Dave Carvey of Rigby Taylor for presenting a superb piece of glassware as the winning trophy, and pieces of Edinburgh Crystal for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. The results were as follows: 1st - Craig Fudge, Tracey Park 36 pts (back 9), 2nd - Paul Garland, Knowle, 36 pts, 3rd Chris Sealey, Chippenham, 35 pts (back 9), 4th - Paul Worcester, Minchinhampton 35 pts, 5th - Peter Baynton, Long Ashton 32 pts. Before the AGM started we were given an informative short talk by Pipewise regarding the products available from themselves. These ranged from PVC fittings to irrigation boxes to land drainage coil.

Thanks are given to Bob White and Gary Sargent of Pipewise for their time and preparation.

And so on to the last item of the day that of the Section AGM.

This year it passed off relatively smoothly but some items of concern were centred around college education within the Section and inter Section team matches.

Officers for 1996 are as follows: Chairman - Ivor Scoones, Vice Chairman - Chris Sealey, Secretary - Kevin Green, Assistant Secretary (Fixtures) - Nick Wilson, Regional Board Officers - Robin Greaves and Peter Cox, Team Captain - Terry Humphrey and Vice Team Captain - Peter Baynton.

Another reminder that the Regional Management Course to be held at Thornbury Golf Centre, Bristol, takes place on February 12 and 13 1996 with our final Section event being the Christmas Tournament at Puckrup Hall Hotel and Golf Club on December 14. For those not intending on going I wish you a Happy Christmas and thank you for your support.

Kevin Green

South Coast

Our first Winter meeting was held on Wednesday November 1 and took the form of a quiz night. It was a very disappointing evening as only ten people turned up and the quiz had to be cancelled. We hope to hold it at a later date. A lot of effort goes into the organisation of these events, so if members don't support them they will not survive. So will you all please note that we have a visit to Husleys Grass Machinery on Thursday January 11 at 10am and we hope that as many members as possible will attend.

Congratulations go the Alan Mitchell and Ed McCabe on gaining their D32 and D33 assessor certificates.

Also to Ed McCabe for reaching the finals of the Miracle Professional Greenkeeper of the Year Award. We wish him luck.

On Tuesday October 24 an afternoon lecture was held by the GTC at Sparsholt College and was well attended. The subject was NVQs and the need for industry assessors.

Anyone wishing to become an assessor should contact David Golding at the GTC. Also I would like to hear from any members going to BTME by coach from Bristol. If there is enough interest we may hire a mini-bus to get us to Bristol, please contact me on 01722 330277.

Jeff Drake

Mid Anglia

Our Autumn Tournament was held on October 26 at Brocket Hall GC. An 18 hole Stableford was held in the morning followed by lunch and the AGM in the afternoon. By all accounts the course was in excellent condition so thanks to John Wells and his team for preparing the course so well, and to all the catering staff who served up a superb meal and looked after us so well.

Thanks as well to David Murphy and his company Driving Force Leisure for kindly sponsoring the prize table. Other representatives also attended and donated prizes for the raffle, so thanks to them. It's much appreciated.

The results of the golf competition were as follows: 1. Lee Murdoch, Woburn, 43 pts; 2. Richard Saunders, St Neots, 38 pts; 3. Rupert Lawrence, Berkhamsted, 38 pts. Longest Drive, Jim Burton, St Neots; Nearest the Pin, Mike Franklin, Trade. Congratulations to all winners.

It was disappointing to note that three members who entered failed to turn up on the day or to tell anyone that they could not make it.

I would also like to remind all members that no telephone entries will be permitted for golf tournaments.

Entry is acceptable only by using the appropriate form.

Some other presentations were made at Brocket Hall to Robert Pearce, Mark Ellis and Mark Whittle for winning the Jubilee Cup at the National Tournament and to the finalists of the Lodgeway Tournament, John Wells, Jon Moorhouse, Rupert Lawrence and Eddie Thompson.

The AGM followed the prize giving where the secretary, treasurer and Match Secretary all gave their various reports.

It was noted that the Mid Anglia Section now has 270 members in total which again is an increase in numbers. Richard gave a brief report on all the competitions held throughout the year and it was pleasing to note that both matches arranged against other sections were won.

John Wells submitted a balance sheet, which showed our main purchase – a computer which has helped a lot in the smooth running of the section.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Chris Brook; Vice Chairman, Stewart Boyce; Treasurer, John Wells; Secretary, Gerald Bruce; Fixtures Secretary, Richard Saunders; Handicap Secretary, Ronan McKeeon; Regional Representative, Paul Lockett.

Mark Ellis was also voted onto the committee as an additional member.

Avoncrop Amenity Products have agreed to sponsor the annual Christmas Tournament and our thanks to Golf and Turf Equipment for sponsoring our Fixture Card.

Finally I would like to wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you in Harrogate next year.

Paul Lockett

Thank you for your support.